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GALILEO.

Galileo, the celebrated Italian Astronomer and Mathematician of the seventeenth century, was born on the 19th of February, 1564, of a noble family of Florence. Although his father desired to have him devoted to medicine, his predilection for mathematical studies preponderated; and his progress was so great in his favorite science, that he was appointed Professor

of Mathematics in the University of Pisa, at the age of twenty-five.

He soon began to contest the principles of Aristotle, so long established in that institution, and in Europe generally; and so much discontent was excited by that course, that he removed to Padua at the end of four years, where he occupied the same post in the University of that

city. He wrote two essays on philosophical subjects, which gained him a high rank among the learned: one on Mechanics, and the other, entitled "The Balance," on the problem of Archimedes, about the crown.

But his attention was turned in a new direction in 1609, by the intelligence he received of the telescope, invented in Holland by James Mentius. He immediately applied himself to the construction of such an instrument, with improvements of his own devising; and by its use he soon commenced a series of observations, of great interest, as among the first late discoveries in the heavens.

Among the objects before unknown, because not within the scope of the unassisted eye, which he first made known to the world, were the mountains in the moon and the four satellites of Jupiter. These last he called the Medicean stars, in honor of Cosmo II. Duke of Medici, who was his friend and patron.

He was restored to his first Professorship, viz. in the University of Pisa, in 1610, on a liberal salary; and there pursued his Astronomical observations. But his discoveries were so surprising, and his fame so great, that the fanaticism of Rome was excited against him, and he at length received the summons of the Inquisition, to appear before that relentless tribunal. There, under charges of teaching falsehood, heresy and doctrines opposed to the Word of God, he was condemned to imprisonment, and confined in a dungeon. After the lapse of about a year he was restored to liberty, under a promise to abstain in future from giving ground for further displeasure, and in 1616, resumed his observations on the starry heavens. Regarding the forced oaths to which he had submitted as not obligatory, and thinking himself under stronger obligations to the truth, he was not always silent; but in 1632, he published his Dialogues on the systems of Ptolemy and Copernicus,

which show a strong inclination towards the latter. This rekindled the hatred of his enemies; and he soon found himself again in their power. The Inquisitors, having ordered him to Rome, made him recant the opinions he had uttered, and then required him to do penance, by repeating the seven penitential psalms once a week. Beside this he was again imprisoned, and remained so till 1634, still pursuing his studies and observations as far as he dared.

His various trials and hardships, with the persevering use he made of his telescope, ultimately affected his eyes so much, that he became blind in 1639. His life was prolonged three years later, and he died at Arcetri, near Florence, January 8th, 1643, at the age of 82.

Among the discoveries and inventions of this extraordinary man, we are to enumerate the calculation of longitudes by the eclipses of the satellites of Jupiter, the cycloid and the increasing velocity of falling bodies.

In 1718 his remaining works were collected in three quarto volumes; but it is reported that some of the most valuable of them had been sought out and destroyed, by one of the fanatical monks who were among his persecutors.

Galileo left a son, Vincenzo, who distinguished himself in mathematical and musical science. Among his pupils were Toricelli, the inventor of the barometer, and Viviani, the Mathematician.

One of the most unfortunate measures ever taken by Rome, for its effects upon the minds of enlightened men, as well as for its direct contradiction of her claim of infallibility, was her persecution of this great and noble philosopher. The truths which he proclaimed have long been triumphant, and the doctrines he taught are now embraced by the whole enlightened world. Rome herself has been compelled to admit and even to teach them, although in so doing she must contradict her own solemn and repeated

assertions. The case is one of so open and palpable a character, that the eyes of men could be neither blinded nor eluded. Attempts have indeed been made, on the one hand to give the impression, that it was for other and heretical opinions for which Galileo suffered punishment; and on the other, that it was not Rome spiritual, but the civil power, who was his persecutor. But subterfuges like these, as in similar attempts to defend or excuse the atrocities of the Inquisitors, do but show the desperate nature of the case.

The remarkably fine and pleasing print on our frontispiece, gives a just conception of the noble statue erected to Galileo in his native city.

Powell's Columbus.

The recent arrival of Mr. Powell, after a prolonged residence in Europe, and with him his beautiful picture of the interview between Columbus and Cardinal Fonseca, must be hailed by every lover of painting, with unmixed satisfaction. In the picture we have mentioned may be seen evidence of talent matured by experience, and the happy influence of a study of morals, whose excellence has received the homage of centuries.

The period selected is that previous to the first voyage of Columbus, and shortly after the capture of Grenada by the arms of three sovereigns. The future discoverer of the New World stands in a noble attitude. Erect, and with one hand touching a chart, spread upon the council board, he regards with a look of conscious superiority the haughty frowning prelate. Fonseca sits in all the pomp of his ecclesiastical station. His scarlet robes and Cardinal's hat betoken his dignity in the Church, whilst his fierce and scowling glance tells of the baffled and defeated disputant. The Bible is open before him, and as his malignant eye is bent upon Columbus he points to that passage in the sacred volume where the "four corners" of the earth are spoken of to prove it not a sphere, and to convict the Genoese of heresy.

In the foreground of the picture is seated the Bishop of Burgos attended by his father confessor, both expressing by

their looks their sympathy with the feelings of their powerful superior. Near the two principal figures are grouped, with the happiest and most picturesque effect, the various attendants of the Cardinal and the youthful adventurers attached to the train of Columbus; whilst seated at the council table, in the striking costume so much affected by his class, a venerable astrologer looks up into the heroic countenance of the great Navigator, as if waiting his reply to the supercilious priest. Immediately in the rear of Columbus a knight sits listening to the controversy. His tall, athletic figure is set off to advantage in his coat of glittering mail, his gauntleted hand rests firmly on the hilt of his long crusader's sword, and his whole attitude is that of deep and earnest attention. Near the knight, and leaning against the balustrade at the foot of the palace stairs, are a party of young men, whose air and costume proclaim them to be students. They have been attracted by the fame of the new enterprise, and are laughing and criticising the scene before them.

The large door-way of massive Moorish architecture, leading into a vestibule, through the pillars of which are seen the white towers of Granada, tinged by a warm and mellow light, forms a fine back-ground, and is in excellent contrast to the stronger tints of the rest of the painting. In brilliancy of coloring, and beauty of composition, this picture will compare advantageously with any of the recent productions of the pencil of the young artists of our own, or of any other country: and by the liberality and taste of one of our citizens, this monument of American genius is to remain in our city.—*N. Y. Express.*

IRON SHINGLES.—William Beach of Troy, has invented and patented a mode of using cast-iron plates for covering roofs. They are about one foot square, and are made to fit one into another, so as to render the roof water tight by applying white lead to the joints. It can be afforded at sixteen cents a square foot, and comes at about half the cost of copper. They weigh three and a half pounds a square foot. Slate costs eight cents per square foot.

Economy gains itself a great income.

Ticonderoga, Lake Champlain, Plattsburgh.

The waters of Lake George are connected with those of Lake Champlain by a narrow stream, about five miles in length. This stream is interrupted by shoals and rapids, and consequently is not navigable. At the steamboat landing at the mouth of Lake George, we found no village, but merely a pier, running into the water, and two stage coaches, under the trees, waiting to convey the passengers across this neck of land to Lake Champlain. When we expressed some solicitude, to one of the drivers, to ascertain how, in those two coaches, he was to transport thirty-one passengers, with all their luggage, he replied that the day before he took thirty-nine. We found the road, winding along by the banks of the stream, hilly and very rough. There were several small mill villages scattered along the stream, and upon our inquiring the names of one of them, the driver replied, "Ticonderoga, Ticonderoga, all about here is Ticonderoga." In about an hour we came to the eminence overlooking Lake Champlain, upon which remain the ruins of the famous fort of Ticonderoga. This fortification was far more extensive and imposing in its character than I had supposed. France, England and the United States, each in their turn, have held and lost it. Under its now crumbling walls many bloody battles have been fought. And where now not a human habitation is to be seen, nor a human voice to be heard, the spirit of war has, again and again, assembled her multitudes, to satten the fields with their blood. Some of the bomb-proof cells under ground still remain in tolerable preservation. What scenes of anguish have been witnessed here, as the knife and the saw of the surgeon have passed through the limbs which bullet and ball had shattered. And here many of the wounded, burning with fever, and often shrieking in torment, have lingered, through days and nights of misery, till death has released them.

The bluff of land upon which the fort is built, is about seventy feet in height, and juts into the waters of the Lake, so as to expose all vessels to be raked by its guns, coming either from the north or south. The position is extremely strong by nature, and was selected by the French, and immense sums of money were ex-

pended in the endeavor to render it impregnable. Through the almost pathless forests, which then surrounded that distant fortress, England sent an army of sixteen thousand men, with artillery and all the dreadful enginery of war, to attempt its reduction. For four hours the furious conflict raged, until about two thousand of the dead and wounded assailants strewed the plain. The British then retired, having produced no impression upon the heavy mounds of earth and lofty battlements of timber, behind which their foes were entrenched. The French, however, in the course of a few months, quietly evacuated the fort, and the English took possession of it. The English retained it until the Revolutionary war, when the British commander was caught napping by Col. Ethan Allen. But the Americans had held the fort but two years, when one sunny morning, to their unutterable consternation, they saw the red coats of the British soldiery, and the gleaming of their bright artillery, on the summit of a neighboring mountain, nearly seven hundred feet above their heads. It was supposed that this eminence was inaccessible to artillery. But Gen. Burgoyne had succeeded in planting his batteries on Mount Defiance, and the Americans, unsheltered from his balls, were compelled to surrender. The English retained it to the close of the war. And now, after all this vast expenditure of treasure and of labor—labor and treasure which might have filled that whole region with lovely villages; after all these sanguinary conflicts, in which thousands perished in the morning of their days, both England and France have lost the post, and it is abandoned to desolation.

We saw no village at the landing-place at Lake Champlain, but there was a very pleasant hotel there for the reception of summer guests. After passing an hour musing among these time-worn fortifications, we saw the steamer Burlington coming down Lake Champlain from Whitehall. We were soon on board this boat, which is far-famed for the perfect order and neatness, which its commander, Capt. Sherman, has established through all its departments. Every order was given by a tinkle of the bell, or a motion of the hand, or by a gentle word. During the passage, not a rude voice was heard from any of the officers or the crew. The quiet and subdued tones of

good breeding, seemed to pervade the passengers as well as the ship's company. In such a boat, in a calm, yet cool and lovely day, it was indeed a luxury in travelling to glide over Lake Champlain. Beautiful villages adorned the shores: fields of great fertility, and highly cultivated, stretched away in gentle elevations, to the base of the distant mountains. The Green Mountains of Vermont, and the Adirondak group of New York reared their highest peaks about five thousand feet above the surface of the Lake. The scenery of these waters is far more beautiful than I had anticipated. A pleasant boat, pleasant travelling companions, a pleasant day, and beautiful scenery, were combinations which rendered our passage through Lake Champlain an event not soon to be forgotten.

About eighteen miles from Ticonderoga, we passed the embankments of Crown Point, also memorable for sanguinary scenes, during the old French war, and the Revolution. At Burlington the steamer stopped for an hour, giving us an opportunity to ride through the principal streets of that beautiful town. In the evening twilight we approached Plattsburg, and passed over the waters memorable as the scene of the naval victory of Com. McDonough, over the British fleet under Com. Downie. While the conflicting fleets met upon the waters, the contending armies waved to and fro in the fury of the battle, on the land. It was a peaceful Sabbath. What a sight must a battle-field be for God to look upon! There is an island, deserted and gloomy, where the mutilated bodies of the slain, victors and vanquished, were thrown together, in one common grave. There is blame somewhere for the carnage of that bloody day. God created his children to people and to cultivate the earth, not to deform and desolate it; and though the patriot may exult over the achievements of his countrymen in repelling invasion, and the Britons may mourn over the defeat of their armies; it is well for each party to remember, that God will call both to account, before his bar. When the spirit of war is abroad in the land, and brute courage is exalted above all other virtues, and the hearts of the people are maddened to read the swollen catalogue of the slain, we are apt to think that war is a pastime, and that God looks down with approval

upon the heroism on either side. He who strews the battle field with the mangled bodies of his fellow-men, has a dreadful account to render at his Maker's bar, and had better look well to it that his cause is just. In view of this judgment, it were more enviable to be slain in a holy cause, than to be a victor in an unholy one.

The officers on both, sides, who fell in these encounters by land and by water, were buried side by side in the graveyard at Plattsburg. The inhabitants of that region have erected monuments to them all—to friends and foes alike. It is pleasant to witness this magnanimity, and to observe that Com. Downie, though slain in the invasion of our country, as the officer of highest rank, is placed in the centre. It is indeed peculiar, to see a people erecting monuments to the memory of the foes they have slain. They are noble traits of character which lead to such deeds.

The waters of Lake Champlain flow into the St. Lawrence, through the river Sorelle, called also Richelieu, and St. John's. This is a narrow, sluggish, winding creek, so difficult of navigation that the light of day is needed to thread its tortuous channel. At the foot of the Lake, and at the commencement of the river Sorelle, is a little village called Rouse's Point. We arrived at this place about ten o'clock at night, and remained quietly sleeping in our berths, while the boat was moored at the wharf, until daylight the next morning. We then entered the serpentine stream, which seemed to creep along for many miles, through an extensive meadow, not a foot above the surface of the water. After passing rapidly through this flat and uninteresting country for about twelve miles, we came to the Isle Aux Noix, the first steamboat landing after entering the realms of Queen Victoria. Here the English have erected strong fortifications, and the red coat and bayonet of the English sentry taught us that we had entered a foreign land. A custom-house officer at that place came on board, and accompanied us to St. John's, about twelve miles farther.—*N. Y. Evangelist.*

STEAM ENGINES.—The oldest evidence of the application of steam, as a power, in England, is a Patent granted to Thomas Savery, in July, 1698.

The Tchingel Glacier.

Our excursion was one that is rarely undertaken, and has, I believe, never before been described. This circumstance together with the peculiarities of the route, may make the sketch of it bear somewhat the appearance of novelty, albeit it is laid in a country so thoroughly explored and described as Switzerland. The head of the valley of Lauternbrunnen is closed in by a part of the giant chain of Swiss Alps, whose summits are crowned eternally with snow, and whose sides are clad with ice. A pass of great height leads from the valley at right angles to it, and descends upon the village of Kandersteg through the Eschinien Thal. Higher up the valley, and leading on from its extremity, but thousands of feet above it, lies the great Tchingel Glacier. To visit this, and, if possible, to cross it, was our present object.

A walk of a few hours brought us to our destination for the evening; it led us past the fall of the Staubach, its waters swept away, as they fell, by distance and the wind, and also past that of the Schmadribach, whose situation makes it the more picturesque of the two. A rude path at first, and soon after none at all, led us more than a thousand feet above the valley; sometimes among fir-trees, and sometimes through little streams, that trickled down to add their mite to the lake of Thun. At this height, on an open piece of turf, a single chalet is erected, to enable a herdsman to tend a few cows while they are at the pastures. Here the brawny Swiss, who was to be our host for the night, braves the weather annually, until the snow obliges him to descend, although he numbers sixty-seven years. A hay-loft above the cows served us for a sleeping apartment, till the dawn of morning warned us that it was time to depart.

But alas! the morning proved most unfavorable to our excursion. A fog had set in, so that we could see but a few paces in advance of us. We waited some hours, in hopes that the weather would clear: and this hope failing, we set off in the mist. Had we at that time been able fully to appreciate the danger of the route, we should have decided otherwise; but as the chamois-hunters, who acted as our guides on this occasion, declared themselves willing to proceed, we set off. For some distance our way lay

along the side of a steep part of the mountain of the Steinberg, but the precipice was principally hid by the mist. Crossing several streams, which, in consequence of the steepness of the ground, tumbled almost in the manner of cascades, we arrived at a quantity of snow, the remains of an avalanche of considerable size. This we crossed, and then climbed, for the space of a quarter of an hour, a hill formed of the debris brought down by the waters from above. We now arrived at the lower part of the glacier. It was covered in great measure with snow, and formed a gently inclined plane. At the side were some traces of a moraine—as the mass of stones which the glacier, in its progress, brings down from the summit of the mountains, is called. The last occasion on which the glacier had been crossed was early in the year. A considerable change had, in the meanwhile, taken place. The sloping nature of the ground beneath it had had its usual effect upon the ice. In its advance it had cracked, by reason of its own weight, and large impassable chasms had formed. Small streams of water were running through some of them. By keeping, however, the line of our route, and following the chinks to their head, we evaded those of greatest size. All this time the fog had been closing in, thicker and thicker, and we now held a council to decide on our future plan. There were two ways of reaching the summit of the glacier: the one, by following its course, and passing under the Gletcher mountain, would have taken us by a sweep into the great plain of snow at the top; the other, by climbing the crags which skirt it, and cutting off the angle would lead us to the same spot. The density of the fog, and the delay we had made at starting, seemed to require us to hasten our expedition. Having, therefore, sent on one of our party to reconnoitre, and finding that there were no streams, it was finally determined to proceed by this, the more rapid, but more dangerous way, and to climb the precipice, called by the chamois-hunters, "the step of the Tchingel."

Leaving the glacier, for some time we mounted an acclivity formed by a downfall of shale and mud. It was so steep, that we were obliged to continue the ascent without ceasing, in order to prevent ourselves from sliding backwards. By

this, we arrived at a place where Hannibal's expedient of destroying the rock with vinegar seemed necessary to be put into execution. The Tchingel Schrit, which now lay before us, was apparently as impassable as any rock that reality or fiction could conjure up. It is a precipice altogether perpendicular: and along the top of it runs a narrow ledge, in face of the upper precipice, where there is bare room for the footing of one person at a time. Below lay the precipitous hill of shale, on which we could only stand with the assistance of our alpenstocks. To attempt to descend it again, would have been to court a difficulty much greater than we had already found in its ascent, on account of the softness of the material, which gave no hold to the footing. We saw, therefore, that our only way lay over the rock before us, there being no room for hesitation, had we for a moment doubted. Our position was, in fact, one of considerable danger. The hill on which we stood had gradually grown narrower in the ascent, after the form of a pyramid, till, at the top, it was only a few yards wide. Thus if, in climbing the precipice before us, we should slip, our fall would not be immediately upon the hill, but into the depth below, which continued one immense chasm of many hundred feet. From the face of the rock, here and there pieces of stone jutted out; of these, some were only a few inches in size, affording a very precarious footing. One or two were of more considerable dimensions. In stepping upon one of the latter, the youngest guide, perceiving that it trembled under him, struck it a few times with his foot. It shook, cracked, and gave way. It fell into the abyss below, rattling and echoing whenever it struck against the side of the rock, till the noise it made was lost in distance long before it reached the bottom. We looked in each other's faces, I believe, for an instant, and read in every countenance the expression of our own feelings. If another stone gave way, or if we missed our footing on the ledges, now rendered slippery by the moisture, or should the apprehension of the dizzy height unman us for an instant, we had already had evidence of the road we must follow.

We therefore proceeded with great care, but more alacrity, and soon after

gained a greensward. A few sprigs of "forget-me-not" had found their way to this spot, and were growing, in spite of the cold and their proximity to heaven. We gathered some of the flowers, as we had a sort of right to them. They seemed hardly born to bloom for any one else, and were wasting their fragrance on the desert air. We did not long experience the easy travelling afforded by the turf. It soon ceased; and, after climbing over alternate beds of shale and rough rocks, we found ourselves on the snowy remains of another avalanche. It was steep and slippery, so that we had the uttermost difficulty in keeping our footing. Indeed, one of my friends and myself fell; but, with the never-failing assistance of the alpenstock, we stayed our downward slide after we had receded about ten yards. For about an hour we continued this ascent, till on a sudden we turned into a plain of snow, one dazzling sheet of white. We now found that, had the fog continued, we should not have been able to cross this immense tract; and that, however dangerous our return might be, we should only have had the alternative of attempting it, or of losing our way in boundless wastes of snow, more than nine thousand feet above the living world. But the fog had nearly disappeared. The prospect was one of the greatest sublimity. In front of us lay an apparently immeasurable tract of snow, on which, as yet, there was the print of no footprint. On the right, the huge Aiguilles of the Blumlis Alp rose with bare crags, too steep to retain any snow on their sides; on the left, the more sloping parts of the same mountain were clad entirely in white. Behind were the height of the Gletcher, and summit of the Jungfrau; below were the clouds.

As we stood for a few seconds, impressed with a feeling of the loneliness of the place, where we seemed to have reached the extremity of the earth, and were cut off from existence by the mists which lay between us and the world, we were reminded that even here the Creator has prepared an inhabitant to enjoy the work of his hands. Startled by the unwonted trespass on their haunts, a herd of chamois, fourteen in number, darted up from a hollow close to us, and began to ascend the Aiguilles of the Blumlis.

To be concluded.



THE SYRIAN GOAT.

Dr. Russell observed two sorts of goats about Aleppo, one that differed little from the common sort in Britain, the other remarkable for the length of its ears. The ears are often a foot long, and broad in proportion. They were kept chiefly for milk, of which they yielded no inconsiderable quantity. "The present race of goats in the vicinity of Jerusalem," says Calmet, "are, it seems, of the broad-eared species, as I have been assured by a gentleman who visited the Holy Land. He was struck with the difference between the goats there, and those that he saw in the countries not far distant from Jerusalem. They are black and white, and some grey, with remarkably long ears, rather larger and longer-legged than the Welsh goats."

"This kind of animals in some neighboring places," continues Calmet, "differed greatly from the above description: those of Balbec in particular. It would seem that they were of the same long-eared kind that were kept anciently in Judea, from the words of the prophet: "As the shepherd taketh out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the children of Israel be taken out, that dwell in Samaria and in Damascus."—Amos iii. 12. It would have been hardly natural to have supposed a shepherd would exert himself to

make a lion quit a piece only of an ear of a common goat."

That very interesting work, the Narrative of a mission of enquiry to the Jews, from the Church of Scotland, contains several notices of the flocks of Palestine. In speaking of Askelon, the journal says: "Many large flocks of sheeps and goats were coming into the village, and we followed the footsteps of the flocks," in order too see where they were lodged at night. We found the dwellings to be merely cottages of mud, with a door, and sometimes also a window, into a court-yard. In this yard the flocks were lying down, while the villagers were spreading their mats, to rest within. We could not look upon their "folds for flocks," in the very region anciently called the sea coast, without expressing to one another our admiration, at the manner in which God had brought about the fulfilment of the prophesy: "The sea-coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks."—Zephaniah ii. 5.

Oscar Lafayette, son of George Washington Lafayette, and grandson of the General, has been elected a member of the French House of Deputies. Six members of the Lafayette connection have now seats in the French Chamber.

[Selected.]



MONTEZUMA.

The head of this prince, the first distinguished victim of European treachery and barbarity in America, might claim the chief place in a historical gallery of busts or portraits, designed to preserve salutary lessons for future conquerors, or to keep us, and our children on our guard, against temptations to oppress the weak and defenceless.

Few pages of history more abound in painful evidences of the tyrannical character of man, than those which record the fall of Mexico. Attempts have often been made, and have lately been renewed in our own land, to cast a false glare upon the arms of Cortes; but they are too deeply rusted with the blood of murdered men, woman and children, ever to have any true lustre for eyes like ours. We have heretofore given a brief outline of his life, in the language of an obliging young correspondent, (See No. 22), and do not intend here to repeat. We shall however add a short description of some of the scenes connected with the closing part of the career of that interesting man whose head we have given above, the generous and manly Montezuma, and some extracts describing the fall of the Capital.

Montezuma was on the throne of Mexico, as hereditary monarch, when Cortes approached his capital; with all the immense advantages of European arms and discipline, under the stimulus of an insatiable ambition, unrestrained by every principle of humanity, with no way of escape in case of failure, and with the pretext of extending the Christianity in a new world. Using by turns promises, pretences, threats and chicanery, friendship and barbarity, as circumstances changed. Cortes having made his way to the most splendid city of America, was received by the unhappy king, at the head of his princes and nobles, and admitted without precaution. With atrocious and contemptible treachery he repaid that noble confidence by seizing the monarch by surprise, in his own palace, keeping him a prisoner, and forcing him to appear to his subjects as approving all that the invader chose to dictate. Under the pretext that the monarch had excited a conspiracy, for his liberation, he put him in chains, and treated him with indignity. Finally, after six months he brought him forth to quell a tumult of the people, when, being wounded by an arrow and two stones, he soon closed

his unhappy life, rejecting every offer to embrace the counterfeit Christianity which was offered to him. This was in the year 1620.

Montezuma left two sons and three daughters, who afterwards professed the religion of their conquerors, and received some of those favors which the Spaniards could well afford to show those whom they had robbed of so much. The elder son was made a Count of Spain, by Charles V. and his posterity are still known. A Senor Montezuma was a representative in the Mexican Congress, several years ago. He bore marked traits of the Indian in his personal appearance.

We now proceed to the extracts we promised. The following sketch is from a British review of Prescott's Conquest of Mexico.

"The whole country, from the sierra of Mexico eastward, was overrun by the Spanish arms. In the meantime, the army received a considerable force of recruits with a supply of arms, artillery, and ammunition, from some ship which chanced to touch at Vera Cruz; and Cortes now thought himself strong enough to recommence his unparalleled enterprise. He passed sometime at Tepeaca, using every means to confirm and conciliate his new allies; and then returned in triumph to Tlascala, to prepare for a second invasion of the valley of Mexico. On the 28th of December, the conqueror took his final departure from Tlascala. His army consisted of 600 Spanish soldiers, with nine cannon, and about forty horses; and of a very large body of Indians, comprising the flower of the Tlascalan, Cholulan, and Tepeacan warriors. Thus provided he traversed the sierra, descended unopposed into the valley, and, on New Year's Eve, fixed his headquarters in the royal city of Tezcoco, whose King and citizens deserted their dwellings at the approach of the invaders.

"Cuitlahua, the brother and successor of Montezuma, had died suddenly during the operations in Tepeaca and the neighboring provinces; and their nephew Guatemozin—a youth already eminent for courage, ability, and a deadly hatred

of the Spaniards—was now Emperor of Mexico. After vainly attempting to move the resolute spirit of his new opponent by threats and promises. Cortes, about a week from his arrival in Tezcoco, commenced hostilities by marching upon the neighboring city of Iztapalapan. He defeated the Aztec garrison, stormed the place, and destroyed a considerable part of it. But he was near paying a heavy price for his victory; for the retreating Indians broke up the dikes which protected the streets from the waters of the lake, and it was with considerable difficulty that the army extricated themselves from the flood. The General's next step was to send a detachment under Sandoval to occupy Chalco, a town upon the eastern shore of the lake of the same name, whose inhabitants had intimated their desire to shake off the Aztec yoke. The Spaniards were again victorious; they repulsed the Aztecs, gained possession of the town, and returned in safety to Tezcoco. In the meantime, Cortes himself was diligently employed in reconciling the feuds of his Indian allies, and in preparing for a reconnoitering expedition to Tacuba.

"Early in the spring, accordingly, the army left Tezcoco, marched round the north eastern side of the valley, and succeeded in storming an insular town named Xaltocan, which lay in the northern extremity of the lakes. They then turned to the southward, by the same route which so many of them had traversed in disorder and despair after the battle upon the causeway; reduced several towns of inferior consequence; and finally, after a severe battle and a complete victory, entered Tacuba. Here they remained for six days—in sight of the capital, and engaged in constant skirmishes with its defenders—and then returned to Tezcoco by the way they left it, administering upon their march a bloody repulse to an Aztec detachment which endeavored to harass their rear.

"Another expedition to the relief of Chalco, commanded as before, by Sandoval, was still more completely successful than the former.

"Cortes, on his return to Tezcoco, found everything prepared for the siege of Mexico. He had a force of nine hundred Spanish soldiers, eighty-seven of whom were horsemen, and a hundred and eighteen musketeers; and he pos-

sessed eighteen pieces of cannon. He had, moreover, procured the construction of twelve brigantines, or small sailing craft, which had been built at Tlascala under the direction of a skilful architect named Lopez, taken to pieces, and transported across the mountains by a body of Indian tamanes—a thing, said Cortes—marvellous to see or hear of. These vessels were by this completely put together and rigged, and they were launched, as soon as the General had inspected them, amid universal exultation. The largest among them was probably scarcely larger than a modern revenue-cutter, for we find that the crews necessary to work them averaged only a dozen hands each. But to the ignorant Indians the flotilla of Malintzin no doubt seemed composed of so many floating castles.

These preparations were, however, interrupted by a strange and dismal event. The Tlascalan prince Xicotencatl, whom the Spaniards had long found a surly and reluctant ally, could no longer endure to assist in an enterprise so likely to make the hated strangers supreme throughout Anahuac. He abruptly left Tezcuco, and scornfully rejected every command and solicitation to return. The moment was thought to require prompt and severe measures, and Cortes was not a man to lose his authority for want of them. The unfortunate Cacique was seized at Tlascala, sent under arrest to the camp, tried, condemned, and publicly executed as a traitor.

"At length on the 10th of May, two divisions—each consisting of two hundred Spaniards, and about two thousand five hundred Indian warriors, and commanded, the one by Alvarado, and the other by a distinguished Cavalier named Christoval de Olid—left Tezcuco for the environs of Mexico. The two Captains performed the circuit of the northern end of the lakes without opposition, and established themselves at their appointed posts before the capital—Alvarado in Tacuba, and Olid in Cojohuacan. Sandoval was then dispatched with a similar force to Iztapalapan, of which place he gained possession after some resistance;—thus making the Spaniards masters of three out of the four great avenues leading from the mainland into the city. Lastly, Cortes took command of the flotilla, in which were embarked three hundred men, one half of whom were to

serve as mariners. He sailed across the lake, dispersed or destroyed with ease some hundred of the Aztec canoes, and appeared in triumph off Mexico. He then anchored at the fort of Xoloc, landed part of his men, and easily dislodged the garrison. Sandoval was then ordered to march round the lake, and occupy the town of Tepejacac, which commanded the great northern causeway. And thus the blockade of the devoted capital, both by land and by water, was finally completed.

"After some days employed in skirmishing, and in strengthening the positions of his army, Cortes commanded a general assault. He himself, with his own division and that of Olid, pushed forward from Xoloc; forced his way through all the defences of the town; stormed the great Temple of Huitzilopochli, and made good his retreat, though not without peril and difficulty, to his quarters. At the same time, Sandoval and Alvarado advanced along the causeways of Tacuba and Tepejacac, and engaged the Aztecs in the suburbs, but did not enter the gates of the city. Several attacks were afterwards made in the same manner, by which much damage was done to the capital; and the palaces of Axayacatl and Montezuma were burned to the ground. But these destructive incursions—though they clearly proved that no part of the city was secured from immediate storm—did not seem to shake the constancy of the besieged; and Cortes was induced, by the impatience of his followers, to make another grand attempt at carrying the city by assault.

"Early upon the appointed morning, the main body of the army advanced in three divisions from Xoloc; while Alvarado and Sandoval, uniting their forces at Tacuba, marched along the western causeway to its support. They all penetrated the city with less resistance than before—with so little, indeed, that their sagacious leader soon suspected a stratagem. His anxiety was increased by the alarming discovery, that the Cavaliers who commanded his vanguard had neglected, in the eagerness of pursuit, to fill up a large ditch or canal which intersected the street; and that, consequently, their retreat, if hard pressed by the enemy, would be exceedingly difficult if not hazardous."

(To be Concluded.)

Charade.

My First sprang up in ancient time,
To light up the halls of an orient clime.
It coursed through space as a lofty tower
Borne on by the hands of an unseen power,
It shone in the darkling halls of night,
And woke up the spell of the dreamless
light
That slept in the gulf of this boundless space,
When time was chill'd in its deathlike
embrace.

My Next stray'd down from its fearful height,
Borne down from its sphere by the wings of
night.
It sports in the midst of water fair,
And plays in the gaze of the ambient air,
And oft when breezes' mournful sighs
Come down from the field of the azure
skies,
It then deserts the sky's blue dome,
And rears in the ocean its pathless home.

My Whole comes down with a balmy wing
To rouse up the fair but sleeping spring;
And oft hath it pierced the crimson vest
That clings to the shroud on the huntsman's
breast.
It calls the seas from a deep repose,
While the wild bleak winds on its bosom
close,
And oft hath it come to the cheering gloom
And rouse up the buds from a wintry tomb.

[True Sun.]

China.

An Account of the Province and City of Canton; By the Rev. A. P. Happer.

The province Kwangtung, commonly called Canton, is situated in the southern part of the Chinese empire. It is bounded on the north east by Fu-keen province, on the north by Keang-se and Hoo-nau, on the north-west by Keang-se, whilst its whole southern boundary is washed by the ocean. It lies between 107 deg. and 30 mins. and 117 deg. east longitude, and 20 deg. 10 mins. and 25 deg. 30 mins. north latitude, extending more than 660 miles east and west, and nearly 400 north and south, embracing an area of 79,456 square miles; and it has a population of 19,174,030, according to the census of 1812. Canton Province thus has a territory much larger than the State of Missouri, the largest of the United States, and a population at the present time equal, if not greater, than the whole population of the United States.

Its surface is diversified with mountains and hills, whilst it has a large extent of arable land, all of which is in a

high state of cultivation. All parts of it are well watered by various streams, and it possesses great facilities for inland communication as well as for external commerce. Its principal and largest river is that which affords access to Canton City, and hence commonly called Canton River. It is formed by the junction of three large rivers, called on Chinese maps, from the direction whence they flow, the East, West, and North Rivers.

From the city to the ocean these rivers are divided into an almost innumerable number of channels, all having communication with each other, so that the land is cut up into a great many small islands, and forms almost a labyrinth of streams and islands; and it is here principally that the pirates, which have been numerous here since the first visit of the Portuguese in the 16th century, have rendezvoused. Most of the other streams flow into the sea, and are of various sizes, some of them being navigable for a short distance for large vessels.

As to the populousness of this province there can be no doubt, as every part of the territory, the valleys and the streams, teem with people.—The cities are numerous and some very large. Fat-shou, some 12 miles west of Canton, is one of the largest manufacturing cities in the empire—being numbered as one of the four principal manufacturing towns, and having a population of 300,000 or more. All the capital cities of the departments are large;—that of Shui-king department situated on the West River, some 40 or 50 miles west of Canton, is said to be one of the best built cities in this part of the empire, and some of those situated along the coast are large, and were formerly the seats of foreign commerce, but have been nearly supplanted by the trade all centering at Canton. And the villages and towns containing from 5,000 to 30,000, are literally almost innumerable, spread all over the face of the country.

The Canton province is divided into fifteen departments: viz., nine foo, two ting of the independent class, and four chow of the same class: and these departments are sub-divided into ninety-four districts, viz.: eighty-five heen, seven subsidiary chow, and two subsidiary ting. The number of townships we are not able to give.

There is a magistrate to each department, who has two assistants of different ranks.—Each district has its magistrate with his two assistants, and beside these regular assistants, where there are important cities in a department or district, there is a special assistant magistrate for each city. There are magistrates to each township, and each village has its head man, who is selected by the villagers.

The city of Canton is the only one that can be particularly described, inasmuch as foreigners have no access to the other cities of the Province. It is situated on the north bank of the River, about sixty miles from the sea. The mouth of this river is called by the Chinese, the Tigers door, fu-mun; in Portuguese, Bocca Tigris, and by the English, Bogue. There are forts on each side of the river, and on an island in the channel of the stream. And they consider this as the entrance to their inner waters. The course from the mouth of the river to the city is north west. The scenery along the banks of the river is pleasing, and in some places it is beautiful. Its general aspect is of low level rice fields, but covered with verdure, and here and there in the distance you descry a hill rearing its head to relieve the monotony of the scene. There are several very handsome nine-storied Pagodas on the sides of the river.—These structures are connected with what may be denominated "the superstition of the elements," or the influence of the winds and rains to produce health and plenty, and they are erected to propitiate these influences to be favorable. The anchorage for foreign vessels is at Whampoa, some twelve miles below the city. The great object of interest to every visitor, is the city itself.

No high towering steeples or magnificent spectacles of architecture greet his eyes; but the most prominent objects he sees are small bamboo thatched look-out stations erected high over the tops of the houses on bamboo poles, and on the bank of the river low dirty looking houses, and on the river every variety and an innumerable number of boats. Many strange and unusual objects and modes of life, are brought within his observation as he is passing along amongst the crowd of boats that cover the surface of the river. He first notices many large

Chinese trading vessels called junks, which, though built contrary to all principles of naval architecture, and varying from 600 to 1200 tons burthen, yet carry trade to and from all the ports on the extended east coast as far as Tat-sing, the port of Peking, and to all the ports of the neighboring kingdoms, to the south-west, and all the East Indian Archipelago.

His attention being arrested by a splashing of oars, he beholds next a large vessel gliding past with great rapidity, being impelled by eighty or a hundred rowers. These are used for the smuggling of opium. And soon the small Tan-ka boat, the gay flower boat, the ferry boats, crowd upon his attention; but he is confused by all this multitude of strange things, and feels relieved when, after ascending the river past all the native city, he beholds waving in graceful folds from an elevated flag-staff, in front of the buildings appropriated to the residence of foreigners, the flag of his native country. These are situated on the bank of the river, a short distance from the southwest corner of the city walls, in lat. 23 deg. 7 min. 10 sec. north, and in long. 113 deg. 14 min. 30 sec. east of Greenwich, 2 deg. 30 min. west of Peking. They are commonly called the thirteen factories, from the number of streets running between them. They are generally built of granite or brick, and two stories high. They front on the river, with a street running in front of them east and west; and from this street small streets run back north and south. There are thirteen of these north and south streets; and the houses are built on each side of them, having entrance from them; and the number of houses on each street varies with the size of the buildings. From this it will be seen, that only twenty-six houses front to the river, while all the others are built back of them on these narrow streets. The front ones are, of course, the most desirable residences, whilst the others are cut off from much of the river breeze, and are very hot in summer. At present those houses are crowded to excess by the influx of foreigners from the increased facilities of trade; and there have been some new houses erected for rent to foreigners. The English consulate, also, and a square of buildings that were burnt in October, 1843, are rebuilding in very elegant style. Many of the

buildings have a small terrace on the top in order to enjoy the evening air. Since the building of these houses first, a considerable plot of ground has been gained from the river in front of them, and a great part of it has been inclosed in two lots of unequal size and used as public squares, and are called the American and English squares. The American is the larger ; and from a tall staff near the centre, the American flag proudly waves. Owing to the crowded state of the streets, these are the only places where foreigners (especially ladies) can enjoy any recreation in walking ; and the general mode of recreation is a row or sail on the river. The scenery around Canton is varied and beautiful, everywhere presenting the appearance of high cultivation, while to the north and east there is variety from the mountains and hills in view, and on the south is spread out the river with its vast and crowded population.

Canton is one of the oldest cities of the empire, and is now one of the largest, most populous, wealthy, and of the greatest commercial importance. The part of the city enclosed by a wall is nearly square, and embraces perhaps half of the population. This city, within the walls, is again divided into two parts by a wall running east and west. The northern is called the old city, and is much larger than the southern or new city, and is the residence of the Tartars, and not so well built as the new. On the south the walls run nearly parallel with the river, which runs here, east and west, and about fifteen or twenty rods distant from it. The walls are built partly of stone and partly of brick ; they vary in height from twenty-five to forty feet ; in thickness they are about twenty-five feet, and are about six miles in circuit. There are twelve gates leading into the city—two on the north, east, and west, and six on the south ; and there are four leading from the new to the old city. The city is also surrounded and intersected by canals. There are two large canals that run on the outside of the east and west walls, and they are connected by one which runs along the south side of the wall dividing the new from the old city. There are other canals on the eastern, northern, and southern suburbs. It is through these canals that many articles of commerce find their way to the storehouses ;

and from these larger channels a multitude of smaller ones branch off.

The suburbs extend in every direction, though they are very limited to the north and are most extensive on the west. The streets of this immense city are very numerous, narrow, and crooked. Their width varies from two to sixteen feet, but generally they are six or eight feet wide, and they are all flagged. As a matter of course, from the immense crowd of people and the quantity of merchandise, they are greatly crowded ; and the scenes there witnessed from the number of retailers, pedlars, beggars, porters, and sedan-bearers, can only be seen in a Chinese city.

The most common building materials are mud and brick. Stone is not much used except for door-posts, &c. The floors are generally made of hardened earth, and the roofing of burnt tiles. Sometimes flat tiles are used for flooring, those for roofing being thin and concave, while to cover the joinings convex tiles are used, having the hollow side put downwards.

The poorest people live in the extreme suburbs, and their houses are mere mud hovels—dark, small, and dirty, without any division of apartments.

The next class, who are industrious laborers, live in larger houses built either of mud or half-burnt brick, and are larger and cleaner, with three small apartments—one for a common eating room, and two dormitories. These houses open into the street, and have generally a bamboo screen suspended to shut out the observations of passers by.

The more wealthy have their houses surrounded by a wall which fronts on the street and conceals the buildings within ; and the elegance of the mansion within depends upon the wealth and taste of the possessor, but nearly all are in the same style of architecture.

The government of the city is intermingled with that of the province. All the provincial officers reside here, and perform the duties of their respective offices independent of and above the local officers charged with the same duties ; and in many cases independent of each other, each provincial officer being immediately responsible to the emperor. There is quite a large police. The city gates are closed every night.—*Missionary Chronicle.*

AGRICULTURAL.

THE PRACTICAL USE OF LEAVES.

There are two facts in the functions of the leaf, which are worth consideration on account of their practical bearings. The food of plants is, for the most part, taken in solution, through its roots. Various minerals—silex, lime, alumine, magnesia, potassa—are passed into the tree in a dissolved state. The sap passes to the leaf, the superfluous water is given off, but not the substances which it held in solution. These, in part, are distributed through the plant, and, in part, remain as a deposit in the cells of the leaf. Gradually the leaf chokes up, its functions are impeded, and finally entirely stopped. When the leaf drops it contains a large per cent. of mineral matter. An autumnal or old leaf yields, upon analysis, a very much larger proportion of earthy matter than a vernal leaf, which, being yet young, has not received within its cells any considerable deposit. It will be found, also, that the leaves contain a very much higher per cent. of mineral matter, than the wood of the trunk. The dried leaves of the Elm contain more than eleven per cent. of ashes, (earthy matter), while the wood contains less than two per cent.; those of the willow, more than eight per cent.; while the wood has only 0.45; those of the Beech 6.69, the wood only 0.36; those of the (European) Oak 4.05, the wood only 0.21; those of the Pitch-pine 3.15, the wood only 0.25 per cent.

It is very plain from these facts, that, in forests, the mineral ingredients of the soil perform a sort of circulation; entering the root they are deposited in the leaf; then, with it, fall to the earth, and by its decay, they are restored to the soil, again to travel their circuit. Forest soils, therefore, instead of being impoverished by the growth of trees, receive back annually the greatest proportion of those mineral elements necessary to the tree, and besides, much organised matter received into the plant from the atmosphere; soils therefore are gaining instead of losing. If owners of parks or groves, for neatness sake, or to obtain leaves for other purposes, gather the annual harvest leaves, they will, in time, take away great quantities of mineral matter, by which the soil, ultimately, will be impoverished, unless it is restored by manures.

Leaf-manure has always been held in high esteem by gardeners. But many regard it as a purely vegetable substance; whereas, it is the best mineral manure that can be applied to the soil. What are called vegetable loams (not peat soils, made up principally of decomposed roots), contain large quantities of earthy matter, being mineral vegetable, rather than vegetable soils.

Every gardener should know, that the best manure for any plant is the decomposed leaves and substances of its own species.—*Sel.*

FRENCH BREAD.

The bakers in France commence their operations at five o'clock in the morning, by mixing 5 pints of water, and 3 lbs. of leaven, reserved from the last baking, and as much flour as will make a paste, weighing 17 lbs. Ten hours afterwards they add 10 or 11 pints more water, sufficient flour to make a paste of 40 lbs. weight; two hours afterwards 24 pints more water, and flour enough to make a paste of the weight of 120 lbs. From this paste they cut off a portion of three pounds in weight, to serve for the leaven of the next day's baking. Then, four hours afterwards, they make a new addition of 100 lbs. of flour, and from 70 to 80 pints of water, all which will yield a mass of about 300 lbs. weight. They then begin to beat the paste, and when it is well kneaded, they separate about 80 lbs. of it, which is to serve as the leaven for the next baking. This paste is so fluid, that the loaves cannot preserve their form before they have been exposed to the heat of the oven. For the second baking, after having mixed the quantity of flour necessary, by kneading it, they add the paste reserved from the former baking, and when the mass is finished, they cut off a part weighing 80 lbs., and thus they proceed a third time, a fourth, and so on, until they have made twelve bakings. They thus continue to work for several days together, only they modify it after every fourth baking, by adding what they term a young leaven to the paste which each baking has impaired or weakened. If they would introduce into the paste either salt or yeast, they thin it in a proper manner with water, which contains yeast or salt in solution. They also use yeast for the soft bread. A quarter of a pound of the yeast from beer is equal to 8 lbs. of the paste leaven, so that 4 ounces of yeast are equivalent to 20 lbs. of the paste. The paste in which they have mixed the yeast, must not, however, be mixed with that containing leaven.—*Amer. Agriculturist.*

RECIPE.—An Ontario Farmer gives the following recipe for cheap paint. He says he has tried it on brick, and finds it well calculated to preserve them, and prefers it to oil paint. He says, also, that it will last longer on rough siding of wood than oil paint will on plained siding or boards.

Take one bushel of unslacked lime and slack it with cold water; when slacked, add 50 lbs. of Spanish whiting, 17 lbs. of salt, and 13 lbs. of sugar. Strain the mixture through a wire sieve and it will be fit for use, after reducing with cold water.—In order to give it the proper color, three coats are necessary on brick, and two on wood. It may be laid on with a brush similar to whitewash. Each coat must have sufficient time to dry before the next is applied.

Advise not what is most pleasant, but what is most useful.—*Sel.*

POETRY.

The Magnetic Telegraph.

Most wondrous specimen of art,
With nature's laws combined,
Thou actest an enchanter's part,
Unrivalled in its kind.

United in a moment's date,
Two distant spots we see ;
Whilst time and space, annihilate,
Are set at nought by thee.

The fabled wonders, which of old
Our childhood loved to read,
Have scarcely equal wonders told,
To match thy lightning speed.

The waive of thy magician's wand,
Bade distant scenes appear ;
Whilst far-off lands, at thy command,
Obediently appear.

O'er miles and miles the message flies,
Yet scarcely is it said,
When lo ! the listener replies
Before a moment's fled.

When shall thy new-found influence cease?
How far will it extend ?
Shall not its curious powers increase
Till latest nations end ?

Yet enemies thou need'st must find :
True merit raises spite ;
Then think of all the foes combined,
With which thou'll have to fight.

Let's have a talk, then, quite at ease,
And gossip while we may ;
Let's chat awhile with the Chinese,
And jest with Paraguay.

We'll ask a riddle in Peru,
Tell tales at Ispahan,
Just speak a word in Timbuctoo,
And whisper with Japan.

As round the world thine influence rolls,
For one I shall not wonder,
To find, through thee, the very Poles
Cannot be kept assunder.

[Chr. Alliance.]

ENIGMA.—NO. 23.

I am a word of 14 letters.

My 4, 13, 6, 8, 14, is a stone much used
by children.

My 12, 9, 6, 10, 2, is a musical instrument
used very much of late years.

My 11, 6, 5, 4, is a kind of feed for horses.

My 6, 12, 12, 13, 14, is a kind of fruit quite
common in America.

My 12, 14, 6, 8, is a sort of fuel.

My 1, 6, 9, 3, is the name of an antediluvian gardener.

My 12, 9, 10, is an article very necessary for
the toilet.

My 5, 9, 3, is a metal used very much for
culinary purposes.

My 2, 7, 9, 11, 3, is a very highly flavored
vegetable which is very abundant in a certain
part of the Eastern States.

My 6, 10, 8, is an emblem of industry.

My 1, 6, 8, is a very useful animal.

My whole is a very ancient and renowned
city.

Solution of Enigma No. 22, p. 656.—The Violet, Levi, Lion, Nail, Vial, Iron, Tea, Olive, Evil, Vital, Vain, Vienna.—Ventilator.

To our Subscribers.—At the earnest solicitation of friends, and for reasons which, we are persuaded, would be approved by the judgment of our subscribers generally, we have determined to make certain changes in our Magazine, which will not only render it much more valuable, but will considerably increase the expense of publication. An increase of price will be necessary: but, as the publication will still be the cheapest of the kind in the country, and indeed in the world, as far as our knowledge extends, we confidently count on the continuance and increase of our patronage.

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